

or more substances having a combined absorption spectrum exhibiting a negative slope for a continuous spectral segment from about 5 nm to 200 nm in length, in a portion of an absorption spectrum, including one or more principal calibration wavelengths, for the two or more analytes. ^W

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification to read as shown below. A mark-up version of the specification, showing the changes made thereto, is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

Please replace the paragraph at page ~~1~~, lines 1-3, as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of US serial number 09/147,373, filed June 12, 1998 which claims priority from PCT/CA97/00418 (designating the U.S.), filed June 12, 1997 which claims priority from GB serial number 9612264.3, filed June 12, 1996.

Please replace the paragraph at page ~~28~~, lines 13-18, as follows:

The differences in absorbances between spectrophotometers, differences in sample containers, and differences in sample composition, all contribute to the identification of different principal calibration wavelengths, and the derivation of different primary